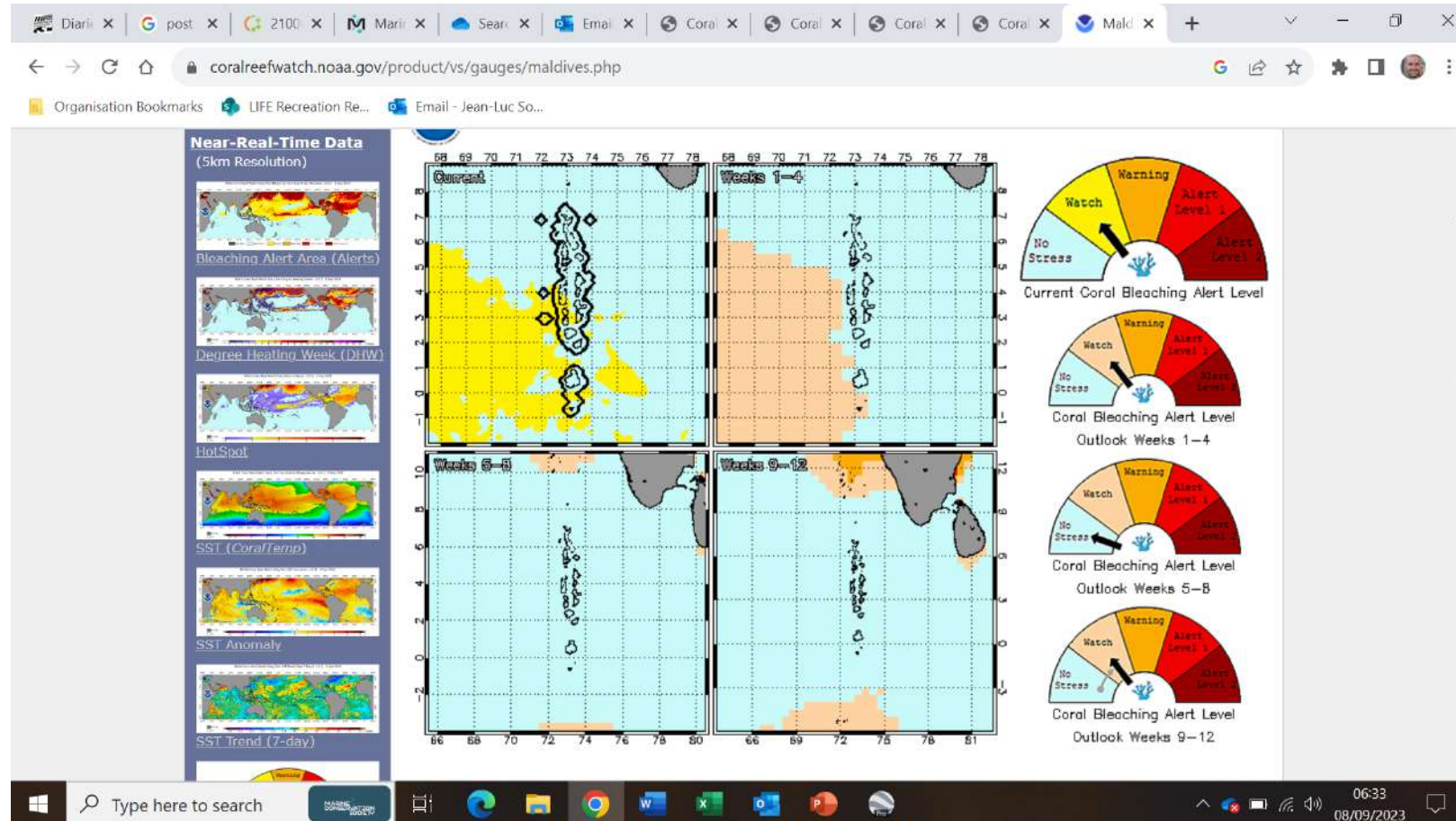


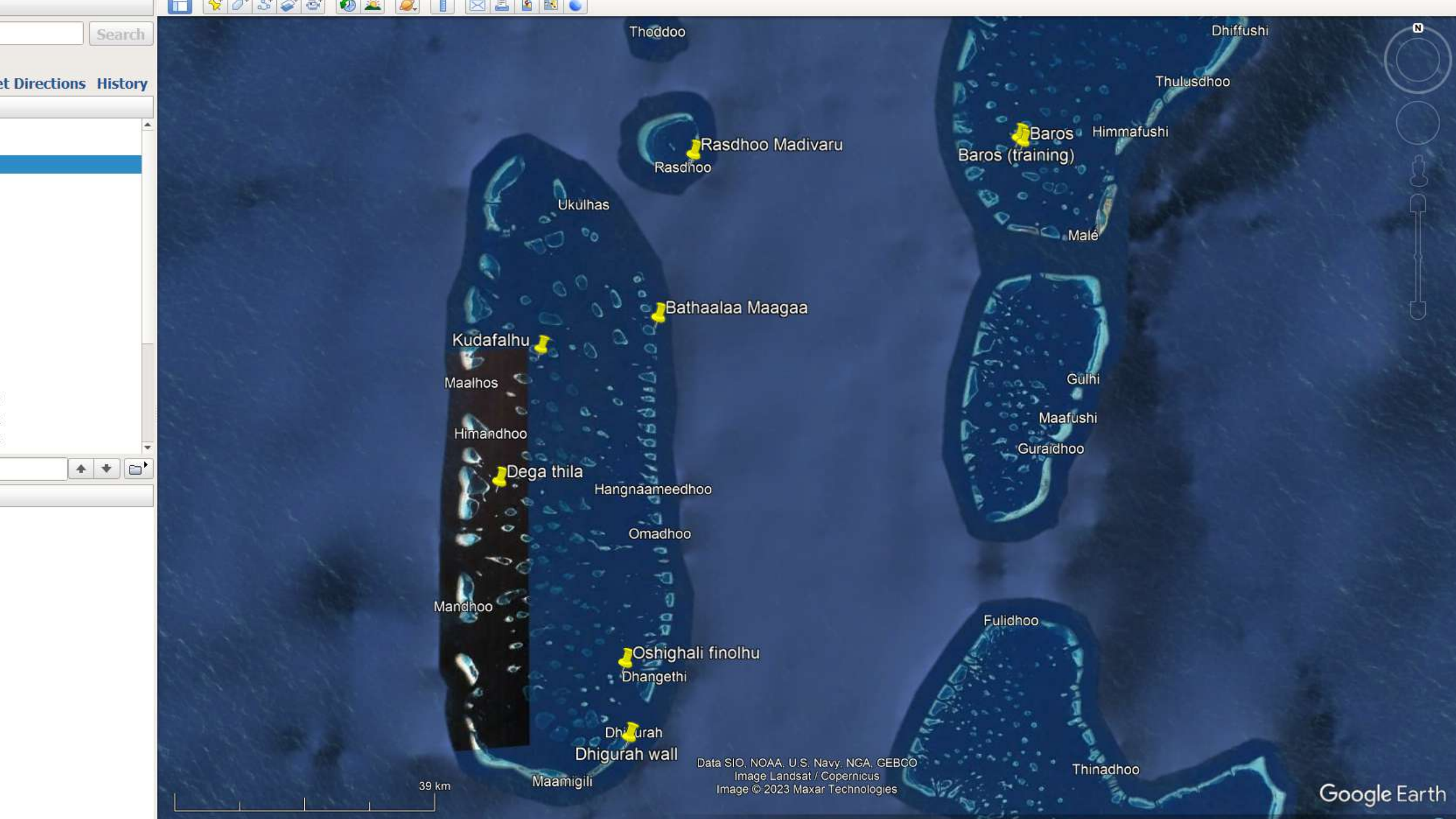
Expedition 2023



A hint of what's to come...

2023-2024 El Nino





Search

et Directions History

Thoddoo

Dhiffushi

Rasdhoo Madivaru

Rasdhoo

Baros
Baros (training)

Himmafushi

Thulusdhoo

Ukuihas

Malé

Bathaalaa Maagaa

Kudafalhu

Maalhos

Gulhi

Himandhoo

Maafushi

Dega thila

Hangnaameedhoo

Guraidhoo

Omadhoo

Mandhoo

Fulidhoo

Oshighali finolhu

Dhangethi

Dhigurah

Dhigurah wall

Thinadhoo

Maamigili

39 km

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image Landsat / Copernicus
Image © 2023 Maxar Technologies

Google Earth

Dreaming of Maldives ➤
THE UNIQUE JOURNEY



Photo © DREAMINGOFMALDIVES.COM
by Sotiris Papadopoulos

What's the reef like?



Whats the reef like?



Signs of change?



Rasdhoo – same as it ever was?



Kuda falhu – back from the brink?



From this in 2011-15



Signs of hope (see blog)



Dega thila – going downhill



...although, looking deeper (at 15m)



Bleaching resilient species – are they being attacked?



Dhigurah Wall – back to bathaalaa / Rasdhoo

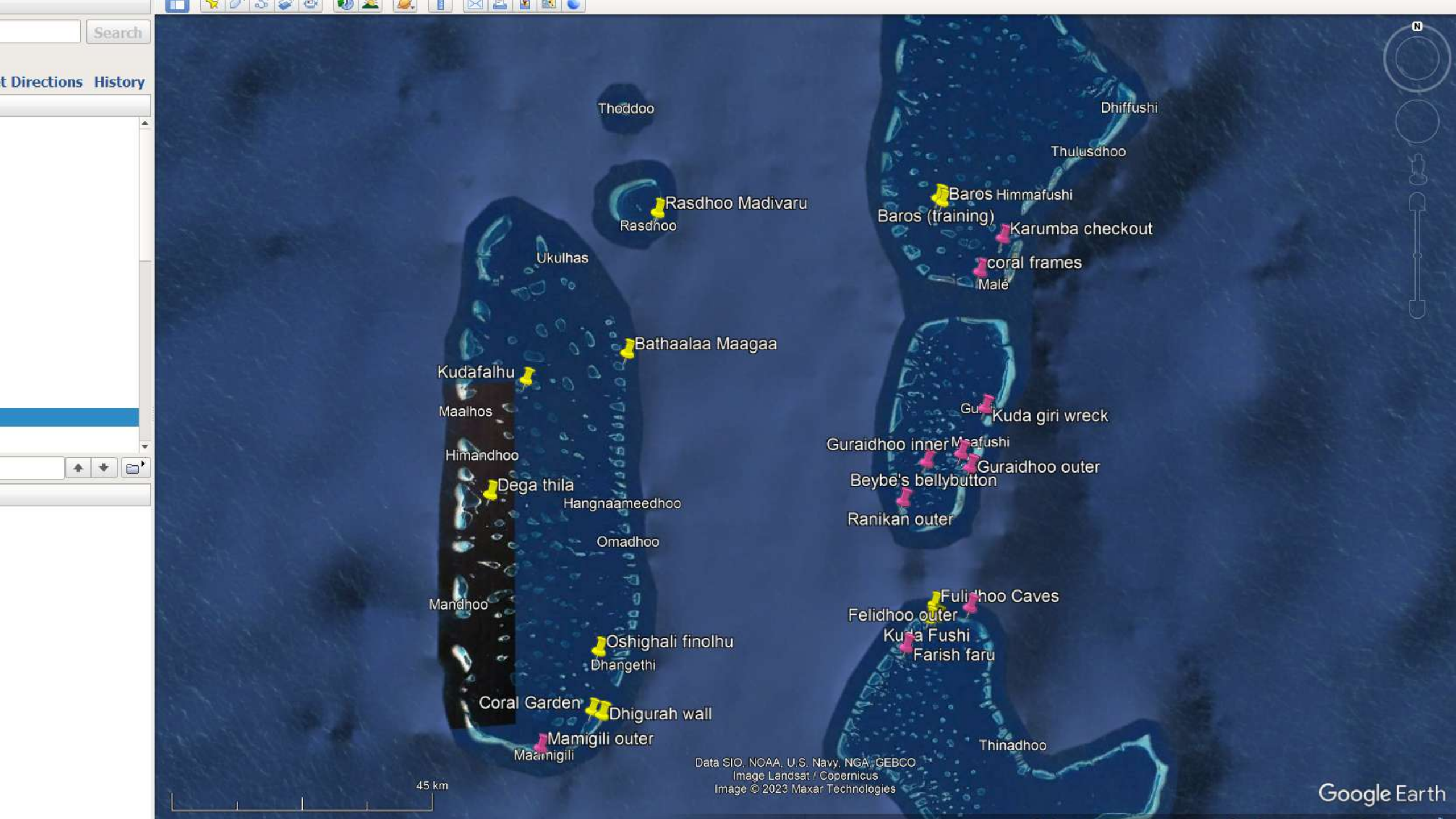


Oshighali finolhu



Prognosis

- 6 sites = 4,800m square metres surveyed
- Maldives is 21,370km²
- 21,370,000,000. So we covered 0.0000002% of the area of the Maldives!



Search

t Directions History

Thoddoo

Dhiffushi

Thulusdhoo

Rasdhoo Madivaru
Rasdhoo

Baros Himmafushi
Baros (training)
Karumba checkout
coral frames
Male

Ukulhas

Bathaalaa Maagaa

Kudafalhu

Maalhos

Himandhoo

Dega thila

Hangnaameedhoo

Omadhoo

Mandhoo

Oshighali finolhu
Dhangethi

Coral Garden

Dhigurah wall

Mamigili outer
Maanigili

Guraidhoo inner
Kuda giri wreck

Guraidhoo outer
Beybe's bellybutton
Ranikan outer

Fuli'hoo Caves
Felidhoo outer
Kura Fushi
Farish faru

Thinadhoo

45 km

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image Landsat / Copernicus
Image © 2023 Maxar Technologies

Google Earth

But we know what's resilient



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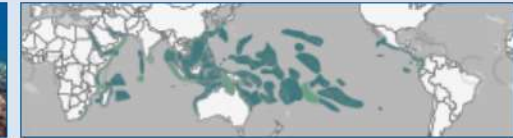
Click on species authorities and references for relevant details. Click on main image for full screen. Scroll through selected species using the scroll above

Porites lobata

Dana, 1846

Porites

Link, 1807



Characters: Colonies are usually hemispherical or helmet-shaped and may be over 4 metres across. They commonly form 'micro-atolls' in intertidal habitats. The surface is usually smooth.

Colour: Usually cream or pale brown but may be bright blue, purple or green in shallow water.

Similar Species: *Porites solidia*. See also *P. australiensis*, which is distinguished by having taller pali, especially on the lateral pairs of septa.

Habitat: Frequently a dominant species of back reef margins, lagoons and some fringing reefs.

Abundance: Probably the most common *Porites*.

Taxonomic Note: A species complex.


Taxonomic References: Wells (1954); Veron and Pichon (1982); Veron (2000a);

Identification Guides: Veron (1986a); Sheppard and Sheppard (1991);




Porites lobata Large massive colony. INDONESIA. Photograph: Emre Turak

We know what's not



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Acropora hyacinthus

(Dana, 1846)

Acropora

Oken, 1815



Characters: Colonies are wide flat plates and tables or tiered aggregations of small plates. Branchlets are thin and finely structured except where exposed to wave action, when they become closely fused. Branchlets are fine and upward-projecting. Axial corallites are distinct but not exsert. Radial corallites are cup-shaped and form rosettes.

Colour: Uniform cream, brown, grey or green with or without blue (which may photograph pink) growing margins.

Similar Species: See *Acropora cytherea*, *A. tanegashimensis* and *A. spicifera*.

Habitat: Upper reef slopes and outer reef flats.

Abundance: One of the most abundant corals of exposed outer reef slopes of much of the western Pacific.

Taxonomic Note: A species complex.

Taxonomic References: [Wallace \(1978\)](#); [Veron and Wallace \(1984\)](#);



Acropora hyacinthus. Large colonies. DAMPIER ARCHIPELAGO, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

We know what's adaptable

Diaries ar x | G post blea x | 21000 sq x | M Marine C x | Search re x | Email - Ji x | Corals of x | Corals of x | Corals of x | + | - | x

← → ↻ ⌂ ⚠ Not secure | coralsofttheworld.org/species_factsheets/species_factsheet_summary/porites-cylindrica/ | 🔖 ⚙️ 🗖 👤 ⋮

📁 Organisation Bookmarks | 🌐 LIFE Recreation Re... | 📧 Email - Jean-Luc So...



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Porites cylindrica

Dana, 1846

Porites
Link, 1807



Characters: Colonies are branching, sometimes with an encrusting base. Corallites are shallow giving branches a smooth surface.

Colour: Usually cream, yellow, blue or green.

Similar Species: See *Porites attenuata* and *P. compressa*. *Porites cylindrica* is readily confused with *Palauastrea ramosa* underwater.

Habitat: May be a dominant species in lagoons or on back reef margins.

Abundance: Common.

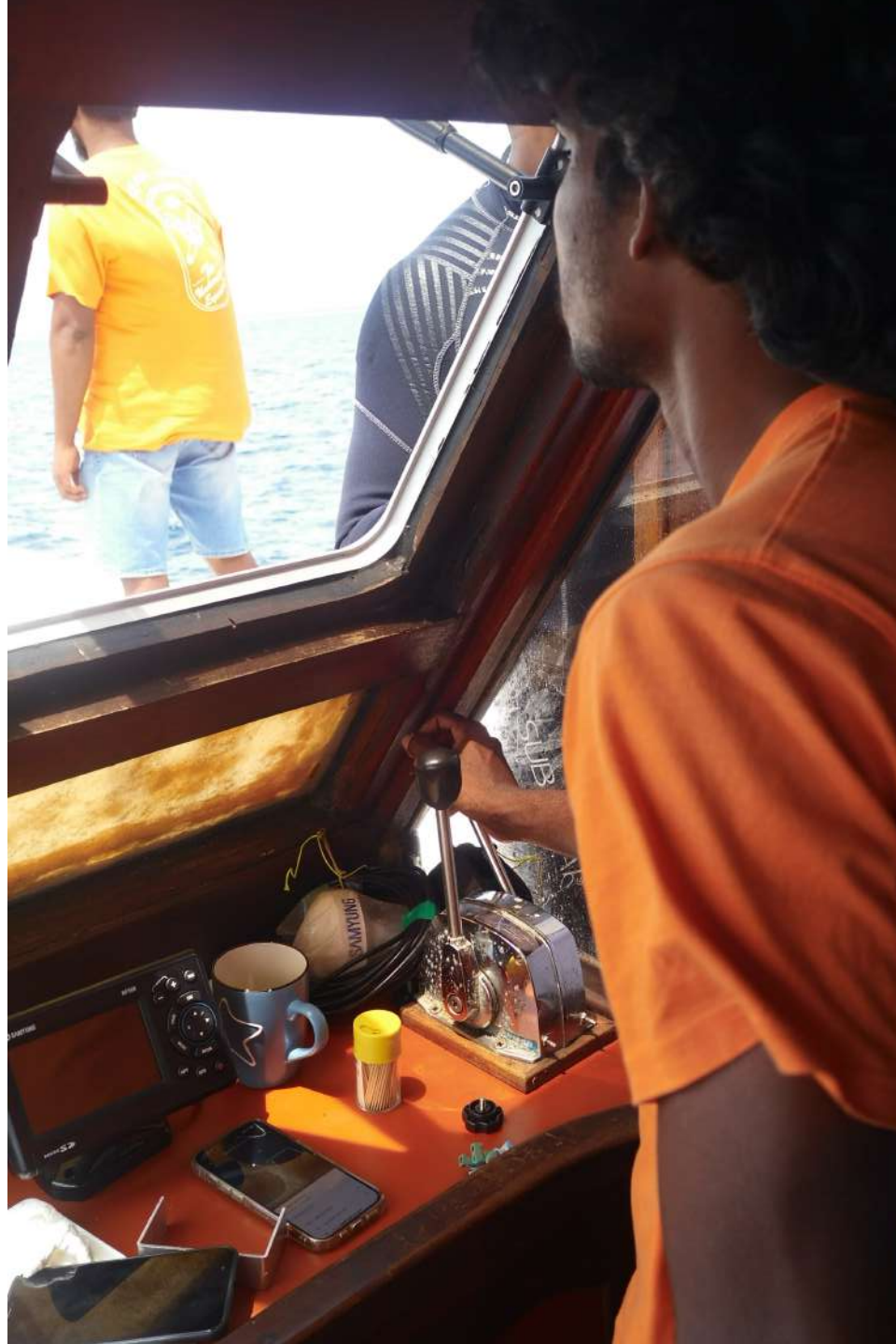
Taxonomic References: [Veron and Pichon \(1982\)](#); [Veron \(2000a\)](#);

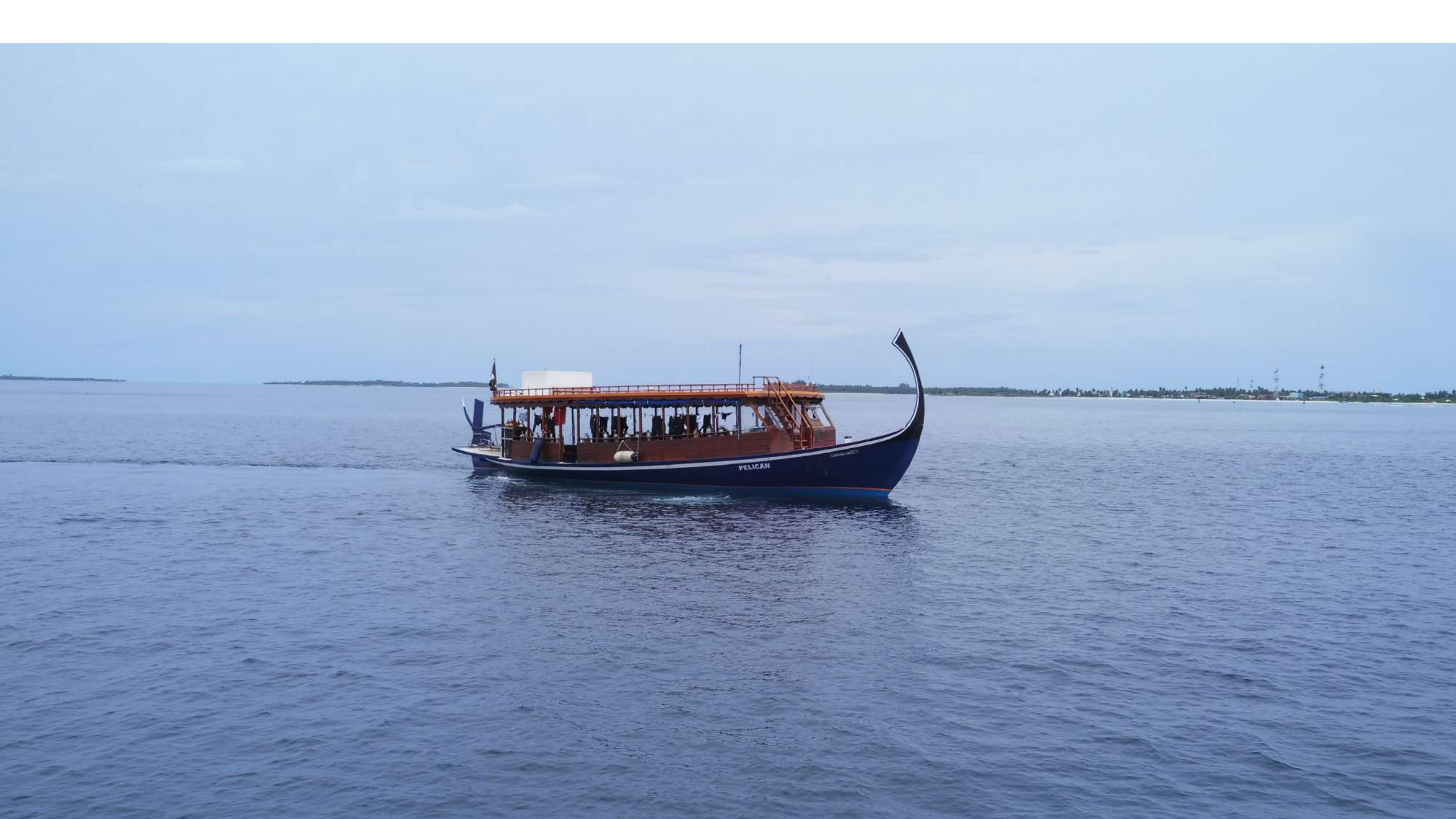
Identification Guides: [Randall and Myers \(1983\)](#); [Veron \(1986a\)](#); [Nishihira and Veron \(1995\)](#); [Pillay, Terashima, Venkatasami et al. \(2002\)](#); [Turak and DeVantier \(2011b\)](#);



Porites cylindrica This species is sometimes a dominant one in sheltered lagoons. GREAT

Logistics





Repeat, but not without change of planning

- Distance
- Weather
- Current
- Which shoulder
- SMB positioning
- Dive teams
- Broken tapes
- Broken slates
- Data entry
- repeat

